

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A cryogenic fluid pumping system, comprising at least one cryogenic fluid tank, a cryogenic pump having a net positive suction head ~~an inlet pressure drop~~ (NPSH) and a suction line connecting said tank to said pump, means for controlling the pressure in the suction line in order to maintain the pressure in the suction line at most as high as the cryogenic fluid saturation pressure plus the net positive suction head (NPSH) of the cryogenic pump, said means for controlling the pressure in the suction line comprising control means for pressurizing the at least one cryogenic fluid tank, ~~and~~ control means for depressurizing the at least one cryogenic fluid tank, a pressure sensor and a temperature sensor for respectively determining the pressure and temperature of the cryogenic fluid in the suction line, and supplying signals to a control unit for controlling said means for pressurizing and said means for depressurizing, ~~in order to maintain the pressure in the suction line at most as high as the cryogenic fluid saturation pressure plus the inlet pressure drop (NPSH) of the cryogenic pump.~~

Claim 12 (Cancelled) ~~The pumping system of claim 11, wherein said means for controlling the pressure in the suction line comprises a pressure sensor and a temperature sensor for respectively determining the pressure and temperature of the cryogenic fluid in the suction line, and supplying signals to a control unit for controlling said pressurization means and depressurization means.~~

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) The pumping system of claim 11 ~~claim 12~~, wherein said pressurization and depressurization control means comprise a tank pressurizing valve and a tank depressurizing valve.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) The pumping system of claim 11 ~~claim 12~~, wherein said means for controlling the pressure in the suction line further comprises a computation unit for calculating, from the temperature measured by said temperature sensor, a minimum value of the pressure measured by said pressure sensor equal to the liquid saturation pressure at said temperature, plus the net positive suction head ~~an inlet pressure drop~~ (NPSH) of the pump.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The pumping system of claim 11, wherein the pumping system comprises at least two cryogenic fluid tanks arranged in parallel, at least one tank being filled with cryogenic fluid during the drainage of another tank.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The pumping system of claim 11, wherein said at least one cryogenic fluid tank is filled with saturated cryogenic fluid with its vapor.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) The pumping system of claim 11, wherein said cryogenic fluid is a low density fluid.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented) The pumping system of claim 17, wherein said low density cryogenic fluid is hydrogen or helium.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) The pumping system of claim 11, wherein the tank is pressurized using a pressurized gas source.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) The pumping system of claim 19, wherein the pressurizing gas of the pressurized gas source is part of the fluid pressurized by the pump.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) The pumping system of claim 15, wherein said tanks are filled with saturated cryogenic fluid with its vapor.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended) A cryogenic fluid pumping system, comprising at least two cryogenic fluid tanks arranged in parallel with at least one tank being filled with saturated low density cryogenic fluid with its vapor, a cryogenic pump having a net positive suction head ~~an inlet pressure drop~~ (NPSH) and a suction line connecting said tank to said pump, means for controlling the pressure in the suction line comprising control means for pressurizing the at least two cryogenic fluid tanks and control means for depressurizing the at least two cryogenic fluid tanks in order to maintain the pressure in the suction line at most as high as the cryogenic fluid saturation pressure plus the a net positive suction head ~~inlet pressure drop~~ (NPSH) of the cryogenic pump, said means for controlling the pressure in the suction line comprising a pressure sensor and a temperature sensor for respectively determining the pressure and temperature of the cryogenic fluid in the suction line and supplying signals to a control unit for controlling said control means for pressurizing and control means for depressurizing.